

Remarks:

The Examiner has objected to the specification because certain informalities. The Applicant has, therefore, amended the specification to overcome these informalities.

The Examiner has rejected claim claims 5 and 10 as being unpatentable over Inomata et al. (US 6,611,405). As admitted by the Examiner, Inomata is silent as to the pinned layer material comprising CoFeV with an atomic percent of Fe ranging from 2 to 60 atomic percent and an atomic percent of V ranging from 2 to 10 percent. The Examiner states that a pinned layer structure comprising CoFeV is notoriously old in the art. The Applicant sincerely disagrees, and is unaware of any prior use of CoFeV in a pinned layer structure. The applicant has amended claim 1 to include the CoFeV pinned layer structure of claims 5 and 10. Since the Applicant is unaware of any prior use of CoFeV in a pinned layer structure, the Applicant sincerely believes that claim 1 as amended is allowable over the prior art.

Allowable subject matter:

The Examiner has indicated that claims 11, 17 and 18 would be allowable if re-written to put them in independent form. Accordingly, the Applicant has amended claims 11, 17 and 18 in order to put them in form for allowance. In addition, the Applicant has amended claims 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15 and 16 to depend from allowable claim 17. Since these claims depend from an allowable claim, they too are allowable over the prior art.

The Applicant sincerely believes that the remaining claims in the present application are in condition for allowance. A notice of allowance is, therefore, sincerely requested. In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (408) 971-2573. For payment of any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2587 (Order No. HSJ920040042US1).

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 12, 2006

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